

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/667,945

Applicant(s)

TAMURA, MOTOICHI

Examiner

Art Unit

Michael N. Opsasnick

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment received on 2/26/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Vijay Chawan
4/30/06
VIJAY CHAWAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-21 are allowed over the prior art of record.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per the independent claims, the claim recitations pertaining to receiving style-of-rendition identification information indicative of a style of rendition to be added to the tone to be generated based on the tone generation instruction and reading out wave factor data from a style-of-rendition table based on the received style of-rendition identification information said wave factor data including at least vector identification is not explicitly taught by the prior art of record. Furthermore, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of tone reproduction to modify the teachings of the prior art of record to obtain the recited claim limitations of the independent claims as noted above.

With respect to the prior art of record, Mohrbacher (5602356) teaches a music synthesizer – col. 5 lines 7-26), recording a rendition of a piece (col. 1 lines 30-45, col. 2 line 48 – col. 3 line 10) for future recall in reproducing a note (tones), or series of notes (tones) of the studio musicians version of the piece (col. 42 lines 32-65 + col. 1 lines 30-45); however, Mohrbacher (5602356) does not explicitly teach information identifying a rendition style. Goldmark (395466) teaches an ensemble track for identifying different styles located in storage (Goldmark (395466), col. 2 lines 49-58). However, the claimed type of identification

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information (time position and vector information) is different than that of Goldmark (Goldmark is merely a storage of the piece, whereas applicant's claimed data is time and vector information used to change the actual tonal information).

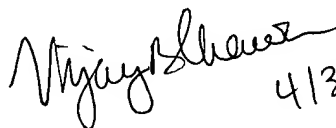
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Opsasnick, telephone number (571)272-7623, who is available Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Richemond Dorvil, can be reached at (571)272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

mno
4/30/2006


4/30/06
VIJAY CHAWAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER